

**A Citizen's Guide
To Request Army Records
Under The
Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)**



August 2004

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) GUIDE**

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INTRODUCTION.

The purpose of this Guide is to provide you with the proper procedural requirements of a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for Department of the Army records. It will provide you with a brief description of the FOIA process and your rights. The information is not intended to be definitive or exhaustive. More information can be found in the Army Regulation cited below.

The Freedom of Information Act generally provides that any person has a right, enforceable in court, to obtain access to federal agency records except to the extent that such records (or portions) are protected from public disclosure by one of nine exemptions or by one of three special law enforcement record exclusions.

The FOIA, which is known by its legal cite as 5 U.S.C. 552, along with the Department of Defense and Army Regulations, govern how requests will be processed within the Army. The Army Regulation (AR) 25-55, The Department of the Army FOIA Program, can be found at Part 518 of Chapter 32 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which is available in most libraries. AR 25-55 may also be purchased from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161, for \$27.00 (plus \$5.00 for shipping and handling). An electronic version can be found in the Army Publishing Directorate's page at http://www.usapa.army.mil/pdffiles/r25_55.pdf.

Due to its size and complexity, Army components balance the goals of centralization of authority to promote uniform decisions and decentralization of process to facilitate responses within 20 working days. Centralization permits functional areas of responsibility to exist under Initial Denial Authorities (IDAs). The IDAs are the denial authorities for functional area records and are listed at Appendix A. Decentralization allows the Army Staff, Major Military Commands, and Installations, to operate their own FOIA offices and respond directly to the public. If you do not know which element of the Army Staff, Major Military Command, or Installation, to write for information, submit your request to the Department of the Army Freedom of Information and Privacy Division, 7701 Telegraph Road, Suite 144, Alexandria, VA 22315-3905. Refer to the section "How do I file a FOIA request" under the Frequently Asked Questions portion of this guide for more information.

Section I. Frequently Asked Questions.

What is the Freedom of Information Act?

A Federal law that establishes the public's right to request existing records from Federal Government agencies.

Who can file a FOIA request?

Any "person" can file a FOIA request, including U.S. citizens, foreign nationals, organizations, universities, businesses, and state and local governments.

What agencies are subject to the FOIA and what type of information can be requested?

The FOIA's scope includes Federal Executive Branch Departments, agencies, and offices, Federal regulatory agencies, and Federal corporations. However, Congress, the Federal Courts, and parts of the Executive Office of the President are not subject to the FOIA. State and local governments are likewise not subject to the FOIA, but some states have their own equivalent access laws for state records.

What is an agency record?

Any product(s) of data compilation, such as all books, papers, maps, and photographs, machine readable materials, inclusive of those in electronic form or format, or other documentary materials, regardless of physical form or characteristics, made or received by an agency of the United States Government under Federal law in connection with the transaction of public business and in Army possession and control at the time the FOIA request is made.

Can questions be processed as a FOIA request?

No. The FOIA does not require Federal Agencies to answer questions, render opinions, do legal research, compile or analyze data, conduct surveys, or provide subjective evaluations. Requesters must ask for existing records, such as those mentioned above.

How do I file a FOIA request?

FOIA requests must be in writing.

- Label your request "Freedom of Information Act Request," preferably within the request letter and on the envelope, and address the request to the Military Command or Installation likely to have the information you seek. If you do not know the location of the information you are seeking you should write to the Department of the Army Freedom of Information and Privacy Division, 7701 Telegraph Road, Suite 144, Alexandria, VA 22315-3905. To submit an electronic FOIA requests send your request to FOIA@rmda.belvoir.army.mil.

- State your willingness to pay applicable fees. If you seek a fee waiver, provide a justification. Refer to the section titled “Do I have to pay for a FOIA request” for more information regarding fee waivers.
- Describe the specific records you are requesting in enough detail so that they can be located with a reasonable amount of effort. Generally, a record is reasonably described when the description contains sufficient file-related information (type of document, title, subject area, date of creation, contract number, originator, etc.); or the request contains enough event-related information (date and circumstances surrounding the event the record covers) to permit the conduct of an organized, non-random search.

NOTE: Appendix B contains a sample FOIA request letter.

What are reasons for not releasing a record?

There are seven reasons why the Army may not release a record requested under FOIA. They are:

- The request is transferred to another Component or Federal agency.
- The Army Component determines, through knowledge of its files and reasonable search efforts, that it neither controls nor otherwise possesses the requested record.
- A record has not been described with sufficient detail to enable the Army Component to locate it by conducting a reasonable search.
- The requester has failed unreasonably to comply with procedural requirements, including payment of fees, imposed by the FOIA and AR 25-55.
- The request is withdrawn by the requester.
- The information requested is not a record within the meaning of the FOIA and AR 25-55.
- The record is denied in whole or part in accordance with procedures set forth in the FOIA and AR 25-55. (See FOIA exemptions, below)

What are FOIA exemptions?

The FOIA maintains nine exemptions to the general presumption of mandatory disclosure. Generally, Congress intended the exemptions to protect against disclosure of information which would substantially harm national defense or foreign policy, individual privacy interests, business proprietary interests, and the efficient operation of governmental functions. Records that meet the exemption criteria of the FOIA may be withheld from public disclosure and need not be published in the Federal Register, made available in a library reading rooms, or provided in response to a FOIA request. These criteria are categorized and described below.

- (b) (1) -- records currently and properly classified in the interest of national security;
- (b) (2) -- records related solely to internal personnel rules and practices, which, if released, would allow circumvention of an agency function;
- (b) (3) -- records protected by another law that specifically exempts the information from public release;
- (b) (4) -- trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a private source which would cause substantial competitive harm to the source if disclosed;
- (b) (5) -- internal records that are deliberative in nature and are part of the decision making process that contain opinions and recommendations;
- (b) (6) -- records which, if released, would result in a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b) (7) -- investigatory records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes;
- (b) (8) -- records for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; and
- (b) (9) -- records containing geological and geophysical information (including maps) concerning wells.

What is a denial?

When information is withheld, whether partially or fully, for one or more of the exemptions identified above, this constitutes a denial under FOIA. When this happens, you will be notified in writing by an Initial Denial Authority (IDA) and given appeal rights. IDAs are denial authorities for records that fall under their functional areas as listed in Appendix A. If your request is denied partially you will receive information that has portions deleted. Redacted records have the denied information removed from where it was originally located within the document. The appropriate exemption(s) for deletion of the information should be listed next to the sanitized area(s) on the document. There are usually two methods for sanitizing a document; one is to blacken out the denied information, and the other is to completely remove it.

Can I appeal a denial?

Yes. If your request is initially denied in whole or in part under one or more of the above exemptions or denied for some other reason, you will be advised of your appeal rights and the proper procedures for submitting the appeal within 60 days. If you are not satisfied with the appeal determination, you may seek a judicial review.

How long will it take for my request to be processed?

Generally, the Army processes requests in order by date of receipt. Whenever possible, an initial determination to release or deny a record is made within 20 working days after receipt of the request by the official who is designated to respond.

If unusual circumstances exist that preclude a timely response, the responsive FOIA office will give an estimated completion date and reason(s) for delay. Unusual circumstances are:

- Need to search for and collect the requested records from other facilities that are separate from the office determined responsible for a release or denial decision on the requested information.
- The need to search for, collect, and examine a voluminous amount of separate and distinct records which are requested in a single request.
- The need for consultation, which shall be conducted with all practicable speed, with other agencies having a substantial interest in the determination of the request, or among two or more DoD Components having a substantial subject-matter interest in the request.

How do I qualify for expedited processing of my request?

You must request expedited processing and demonstrate one of the following compelling needs:

- Failure to obtain the records on an expedited basis could reasonably be expected to pose an imminent threat to the life or physical safety of an individual.
- Information is urgently needed by an individual primarily engaged in disseminating information in order to inform the public concerning actual or alleged Federal Government activity.
- Other reasons that merit expedited processing are an imminent loss of substantial due process rights.

Do I have to pay for a FOIA request?

The FOIA allows uniform fees to be charged to certain types of requesters, but it also provides that waivers or reductions in fees be given if disclosing the information is in the public interest. The FOIA requires that requesters be placed into one of the below categories:

Commercial. Requesters who seek information for a use or purpose that furthers their commercial, trade, or profit interest are considered commercial requesters. Commercial requesters pay all fees for search, review, and duplication.

Educational. Institutions of education, including preschools, elementary or secondary schools and institutions of higher learning, qualify as educational institutions. The records must be sought in furtherance of scholarly research. Educational requesters pay only duplication fees, unless it is determined that fees are waived or reduced in the public interest. The first 100 pages are provided at no cost.

Non-Commercial Scientific. A non-commercial scientific institution is operated solely for conducting scientific research. The records must be sought in furtherance of scientific research. Like educational requesters, these requesters pay only duplication fees, unless it is determined that fees are waived or reduced in the public interest. The first 100 pages are provided at no cost.

News Media. A representative of the news media is a person actively gathering news for an entity organized and operated to publicize or broadcast news to the public. News media pay only duplication fees, unless it is determined that fees are waived or reduced in the public interest. Again, the first 100 pages are provided at no cost.

“Other” Requester. Requesters who do not qualify in another category are considered “other” requesters, and normally make requests for agency records for their personal use. “Other” requesters receive two hours search, all review costs, and the first 100 pages at no cost.

All requesters must submit a willingness to pay fees regardless of the fee category; however, this does not mean you will be charged fees. Except for commercial requesters whose fees total more than \$15, waivers are always considered. Fee waivers may be granted when disclosure of the records is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government. The following factors are weighed in making a fee waiver determination.

- The subject of the request.
- The informative value of the information to be disclosed.
- The contribution to an understanding of the subject by the general public likely to result from the disclosure.
- The significance of the contribution to public understanding.
- Disclosure of the information is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.
- The ability of the requester to disseminate the information.

Section II. Reading Room.

Under subsection (a)(2) of the FOIA, agencies must make four distinct categories of records available for “public inspection and copying.” These “reading room” records consists of: (1)

“final opinions [and]...orders” rendered in the adjudication of administrative cases; (2) specific agency policy statements; (3) certain administrative staff manuals; and, (4) records disclosed in response to a FOIA request that “the agency determines have become or are likely to become the subject of subsequent requests.”

Therefore, the Department of the Army Freedom of Information and Privacy Division operates the Army’s Reading Room. It is open to the general public from 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (excluding Federal holidays). For more information regarding the reading room, or to schedule an appointment, write to the Department of the Army Freedom of Information and Privacy Division, 7701 Telegraph Road, Suite 144, Alexandria, VA 22315-3905.

Section III. Electronic Access and Links of Interest.

At the Army homepage, you will find a hyperlink to the Army’s Electronic Freedom of Information Act Reading Room. Another useful tool is the DOD Government Information Locator Service (GILS), which is essentially a card catalog that identifies public information resources.

- The internet address for the Army’s Electronic Freedom of Information Act Reading Room is: <https://www.rmda.belvoir.army.mil/rmdaxml/rmdadocuments/ERR%20DOCUMENTS/FOIAElecReadRoom.asp>.
- The internet address for the Army homepage is: <http://www.army.mil>.
- The internet address for the DoD GILS system is <http://sites.defenselink.mil/>. To access the DOD GILS system, use the search feature to locate records.
- The internet address for the DOD Annual FOIA Report is: <http://www.defenselink.mil/pubs/foi/>.

Section IV. Conclusion.

We trust this information will be helpful to you when pursuing FOIA requests with Army. If you have suggestions, you may email us at FOIA@rmda.belvoir.army.mil or write to the Department of the Army Freedom of Information and Privacy Division, 7701 Telegraph Road, Suite 144, Alexandria, VA 22315-3905.

APPENDIX A
INITIAL DENIAL AUTHORITY LISTING

The Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Army is authorized to act for the Secretary of the Army on requests for all records maintained by the office of the Secretary of the Army and its serviced activities, as well as requests requiring the personal attention of the Secretary of the Army. This includes civilian equal employment opportunity (EEO) actions. (see DCSPER (G1) for military equal opportunity (EO) actions.)

The Director of the Army Staff is authorized to act on requests for all records of the Chief of Staff and its field operating agencies to include finance and accounting records. The Director of the Army Staff has delegated authority to the Chief Attorney, U.S. Army Resources & Programs Agency. (See the Judge Advocate General for General Officer Management Office (GOMO) actions.)

CHIEF ATTORNEY & LEGAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE
US ARMY RESOURCES AND PROGRAMS AGENCY, OFFICE
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
JDRP-CA, 120 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-0120

The Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology is authorized to act on requests for procurement records other than those under the purview of the Chief of Engineers and the Commander, U.S. Army Materiel Command.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY FOR ACQUISITION, LOGISTICS,
AND TECHNOLOGY
SAAL-IMO
PRESIDENTIAL TOWER, SUITE 11500
2511 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY
ARLINGTON, VA 22202-3911

The Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civilian Personnel Policy), Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) is authorized to act on requests for civilian personnel records, personnel administration and other civilian personnel matters, except for EEO (civilian) matters which will be acted on by the Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Army. The Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civilian Personnel Policy)/Director of Civilian Personnel has delegated this authority to the Chief, Policy and Program Development Division.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT G1 FOR CIVILIAN PERSONNEL POLICY

CHIEF, POLICY & PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
DAPE-CP-PPE
2461 EISENHOWER AVENUE (HOFFMAN I) (RM 152)
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22331

Chief Information Officer/G6 is authorized to act on requests for records pertaining to Army Information Technology, Command, Control Communications and Computer Systems and the Information Resources Management Program (automation, telecommunications, visual information, records management, publications and printing).

CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER/G6
SAIS-ZXA
107 ARMY PENTAGON, RM 1A267
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-0107

The Inspector General is authorized to act on requests for all Inspector General records.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
RECORDS RELEASE OFFICE
SAIG-ZXR
2511 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY
ARLINGTON, VA 22202-3912

The Auditor General is authorized to act on requests for records relating to audits done by the U.S. Army Audit Agency under AR 10-2. This includes requests for related records developed by the Audit Agency.

OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL
SAAG-GC
3101 PARK CENTER DRIVE, RM 1301
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22302-1596

The Deputy Chief of Staff, G3 is authorized to act on requests for records relating to strategy formulation, force development, individual and unit training policy, strategic and tactical command and control systems, nuclear and chemical matters, and use of DA forces, and military police prisoner confinement, and correctional records.

DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, G3
DAMO-ZXA
400 ARMY PENTAGON, RM 1E141
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-0400

The Deputy Chief of Staff, G8 is authorized to act on requests for records relating to programming, material integration and externally directed reviews.

DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, G8
DAPR-ZXA
700 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-0700

The Deputy Chief of Staff, G1 is authorized to act on the following records: all personnel board actions, equal opportunity (military) and sexual harassment, health promotions, physical fitness and well being, command and leadership policy records, HIV and suicide policy, substance abuse programs except for individual treatment records which are the responsibility of the Surgeon General, retiree benefits, services, and programs, excluded are individual personnel records of retired military personnel which are the responsibility of the U.S. Army Reserve Personnel Command, DA dealings with veterans affairs, U.S. Soldier's and Airmen's Home, retention, promotion, and separation, recruiting and MOS policy issues, personnel travel and transportation entitlements, military strength and statistics, the army librarian, demographics, and manprint.

DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, G1
DAPE-ZXM
300 ARMY PENTAGON, RM 1D374
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-0300

The Deputy Chief of Staff, G4 is authorized to act on requests for records relating to DA logistical requirements and determinations, policy concerning material maintenance and use, equipment standards, and logistical readiness.

DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, G4
DALO-ZXA
500 ARMY PENTAGON, RM 1D343
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-0500

The Assistant Chief of Staff For Installation Management (ACSIM) is authorized to act on requests for records relating to planning, programming, execution and operation of Army installations. This includes base realignment and closure activities, environmental activities other than litigation, facilities and housing activities, and installation management support activities.

ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF FOR INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT

DAIM-MD
600 ARMY PENTAGON, 8605 NC1
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-0600

NOTE: For Policy Inquiries:

The Chief of Engineers is authorized to act on requests for records involving civil works, military construction, engineer procurement, and ecology and the records of the U.S. Army Engineer divisions, districts, laboratories, and field operating agencies.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS
CECC-G
441 G STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20314-1000

NOTE: For FOIA Inquiries:

HUMPHRIES ENGINEER CENTER
OFFICE OF COUNSEL
FOIA
7701 TELEGRAPH ROAD
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22315-3905

The Chief of Chaplains is authorized to act on requests for records involving ecclesiastical relationships, rites performed by DA chaplains and nonprivileged communications relating to clergy and active duty Chaplains' military personnel files.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS
DACH-IME
2511 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY
SUITE 12500
ARLINGTON, VA 22202-3907

The Judge Advocate General is authorized to act on requests for records relating to claims, courts-martial, legal services, administrative investigations and similar legal records. TJAG is also authorized to act on requests for general officer management office actions and records, especially if those records relate to litigation in which the United States has an interest. Requests for such records, however, should be sent directly to the General Officer Management Office. In addition, TJAG is authorized to act on requests for records that are not within the functional areas of responsibility of any other IDA, including, but not limited to requests for records for commands, and activities.

OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL
DAJA-AL
2200 ARMY PENTAGON, RM 1E739
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-2200

The Chief, National Guard Bureau is authorized to act on requests for all personnel and medical records of retired, separated, discharged, deceased, and active ARNG military personnel, including technician personnel, unless such records clearly fall within another IDA's responsibility. This authority includes, but is not limited to, National Guard organization and training files, plans, operations and readiness files, policy files, historical files, files relating to National Guard military support, drug interdiction, civil disturbances, construction, civil works and ecology records dealing with armories, facilities within the states, ranges, etc. Equal opportunity investigative records, aviation program records and financial records dealing with personnel, operation and maintenance, and equipment budgets.

CHIEF, NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU
NGB-SDA (FOIA)
1411 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY
ARLINGTON, VA 22202-3231

The Chief, Army Reserve is authorized to act on requests for all records relating to USAR plans, policies, and operations, changes in the organizational status of USAR units, mobilization and demobilization policies, active duty tours, and the individual mobilization augmentation program.

CHIEF ARMY RESERVE
DAAR-CSG
2400 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-2400

U.S. Army Human Resources Command – St. Louis has been delegated authority to act on behalf of the Chief, Army Reserve, in response to requests for all personnel and medical records of retired, separated, discharged, deceased and reserve component military personnel, and all U.S. Army Reserve records, unless such records clearly fall within another IDA's responsibility.

U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND – ST LOUIS
ARPC-ZCC-A
1 RESERVE WAY
ST. LOUIS, MO 63132-5200

The Commander, U.S. Army Forces Command is authorized to act on requests for FORSCOM command records created during the period July 1, 1987 to September 30, 1993, under the provision of paragraph 1-510.

U.S. ARMY FORCES COMMAND
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (AFCI-PR)
1777 HARDY AVENUE SW
FORT MCPHERSON, GA 30330-1062

The Commander, U.S. Army Medical Command is authorized to act on requests for medical research and development records and the medical records of active duty military personnel, dependents, and persons given physical examinations or treatment at DA medical facilities, to include alcohol and drug treatment/test records.

U.S. ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACT OFFICE
MCFP
2050 WORTH ROAD, SUITE 13
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TX 78234-6013

The Commander, U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command is authorized to act on requests for intelligence investigation and security records, foreign scientific and technological information, intelligence training, mapping and geodesy information, ground surveillance records, intelligence threat assessment, and missile intelligence data relating to tactical land warfare systems. Also records from ITAC, DCSINT, MSIC, and FSTC.

U.S. ARMY INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY COMMAND
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY OFFICE
IAMG-CIC-FOI/PO
4552 PIKE ROAD
FORT MEADE, MD 20755-5995

The Commander, U.S. Army Materiel Command is authorized to act on requests for the records of AMC Headquarters and its subordinate commands, units, and activities that relate to procurement, logistics, research and development, and supply and maintenance operations.

U.S. ARMY MATERIEL COMMAND
AMCIO-R
9301 CHAPEK ROAD
FORT BELVOIR, VA 22060

The Commander, United States Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC) is authorized to act on requests for the records of ATEC headquarters, its subordinate commands, units, and activities that relate to test and evaluation operations.

U.S. ARMY TEST AND EVALUATION COMMAND
DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
CSTE-IM
4501 FORD AVENUE, SUITE 870
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22302

Office of the Provost Marshall General is authorized to act on all requests for provost marshal activities and law enforcement functions for the Army, all matters relating to police intelligence, physical security, criminal investigations, corrections and interment (to include confinement and correctional programs for U.S. prisoners, criminal investigations, provost marshal activities, and military police support. OPMG is responsible for the Office of Security, Force Protection, and Law Enforcement Division.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHALS GENERAL
DAPM-ZXS
2800 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-2800

The Commander, U.S. Army Crime Records Center is authorized to act on requests for criminal investigative records of USACID Headquarters and its subordinate activities and military police reports. This includes criminal investigation records, investigation-in-progress records, and all military police records and reports.

U.S. ARMY CRIME RECORDS CENTER
CICR-FP
6010 6TH STREET, BLDG #1465
FORT BELVOIR, VA 22060-5585

The Commander, U.S. Army Crime Records Center is authorized to act on requests for criminal investigative records of USACID Headquarters and its subordinate activities and military police reports. This includes criminal investigation records, investigation-in-progress records, and all military police records and reports.

U.S. ARMY CRIME RECORDS CENTER
CICR-FP
6010 6TH STREET, BLDG #1465

FORT BELVOIR, VA 22060-5585

The Commander, U.S. Army Safety Center is authorized to act on requests for Army safety records.

U.S. ARMY SAFETY CENTER
LEGAL/CSSC-SJA
FORT RUCKER, AL 36362-5363

The Commander, U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center is authorized to act on requests for records relating to morale, welfare, and recreation programs; non-appropriated fund issues, private organizations on Army installations, child development centers, and family programs.

U.S. ARMY COMMUNITY AND FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER
CFSC-JA
4700 KING STREET, 2ND FLOOR
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22302-4411

U.S. Army Human Resources Command is authorized to act on requests for military personnel files relating to active duty (other than those of reserve and retired personnel) military personnel matters, personnel locator, physical disability determinations, and other military personnel administration records; records relating to military casualty and memorialization activities; heraldic activities; voting; records relating to identification cards; naturalization and citizenship; commercial solicitation; military postal service agency and Army postal and unofficial mail service.

U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND
AHRC-FOI
200 STOVALL STREET, RM 7S65
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22332-0404

The General Counsel, Army and Air Force Exchange Service is authorized to act on requests for AAFES records, under AR 60-20/AFR 147-14.

ARMY AND AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE
HQ AAFES GC
P.O. BOX 650061
DALLAS, TX 75265-0061

For Court-Martial Records:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
US ARMY JUDICIARY
JALS-CCO
901 NORTH STUART STREET, SUITE 1200
ARLINGTON, VA 22203-1837

Special IDA authority for time-event related records may be designated on a case-by-case-basis. These will be published in the federal register. Current information on special delegations may be obtained from the Department of the Army Freedom of Information and Privacy Division, 7701 Telegraph Road, Suite 144, Alexandria 22315-3905

APPENDIX B
SAMPLE FOIA REQUEST LETTER

Army Component Head [or FOIA Officer]
Army Component
Address
City, State, Zip Code

Dear:

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).

I request that a copy of the following document(s) be provided to me. [Identify the document(s) as specifically as possible].

In order to help you determine my status for the purpose of assessing fees, you should know that I am [Insert one of the descriptions below]

a representative of the news media affiliated with the _____ newspaper (magazine, television station, etc.), and this request is made as part of news gathering and not for a commercial use.

affiliated with an educational or non-commercial scientific institution, and this request is made for a scholarly or scientific purpose and not for commercial use.

affiliated with a private business and am seeking information for use in the companies business.

an individual seeking information for personal use and not for a commercial use.

I am willing to pay fees for this request up to a maximum of \$_____. If you estimate that the fees will exceed this limit, please inform me first.

[Optional] I request a waiver of fees for this request because disclosure of the requested information to me is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to the public understanding of the operations or activities of the Army and is not primarily in my commercial interest. [Include details about how the requested information will be disseminated by you to the general public]

[Optional] I also include a telephone number at which I can be contacted if necessary to discuss any aspect of my request.

Sincerely,

Name
Address
City, State, Zip Code
Telephone Number [Optional]